

This is a public comment For the ^{Received & Inspected} Petition (CC Docket #96-128)

OCT - 1 2012

FCC Mail Room

It is my hope that something will be done to standardize prison collect call rates + make them more comparable with commercial collect call rates. I have been unable to speak with most of my family members over the last 10 years of my incarceration because they live across the country + the cost of calls are exorbitant. Besides the cost of the calls, the company which has a monopoly on our prisons calling system requires our families to pay a sign-up fee + also deducts a service fee from every payment into the account (which must be pre-paid).

The fact that prisons are allowed to profit from our phone calls seems morally wrong when the cost of phone calls is considered. While I see no harm in their recovering the costs of the system + maintenance, their profit margin should not be what is preventing me from speaking to my grandmother who lives on Social Security.

Please take into consideration our children + families even if you do not have any regard for us.

Michelle Theer

Received & Inspected

OCT - 1 2012

FCC Mail Room

September 23, 2012

Christopher Derrison

03092-095

USP Florence, AD MAX

P.O. Box 8500

Florence, CO 81226-8500

Chairman Julius Genachowski

Federal Communications Commission

Public Comments

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20551

RE: Public Comment for the Wright Petition (cc docket #961)

Greetings,

I am writing in support of the Wright Petition seeking reform in the regulations that govern pricing of telephone services available to prisoners.

As a prisoner I can attest to the disparate and unfair pricing which have over the years placed a tremendous financial burden upon my family and myself.

The current system is unfair. Prisoners should have the same access to communications insofar as price per call as anyone else.

Respectfully, 

OCT - 1 2012

FCC Mail Room

"This is a public comment for the "WRIGHT PETITION (cc Docket # 96-128)."

SEPTEMBER 18, 2012

"DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI",

I BRINGFORTH this letter for the sole purpose of sharing my PERSONAL EXPERIENCE in respects to the high cost of prison PHONE CALLS.

I AM CURRENTLY AN INMATE IMPRISONED WITHIN THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (IDOC) JEFFERY MITCHELL # P74032.

BY BEING A PRESIDENT OF CHICAGO, ILL AND BEING CONFINED AT DOWN STATE PRISONS I'M

DEPENDANT UPON THE PRISON PHONE SYSTEM DUE TO THE INABILITY OF

MY FAMILY TO VISIT ME ON

A FREQUENT BASIS, SO MY ONLY

ROUTE OF COMMUNICATION VIA

KEEPING IN CONTACT WITH MY

family is through the Phone System. But BECAUSE of \$ 10.00 DOLLARS (cost) for EVERY 30 MINUTE Phone call a lot of the times I BE UNABLE to USE the Phone AS WELL DUE to the high cost. I come from a struggling low class family home where the flow of INCOME IS not PLENTIFUL AND most of the time MONEY IS ALREADY ACCOUNTED for ,so MY family GOES the extra mile to try AND ENSURE that MONEY is kept ON the Phone But HOWEVER, IT NEVER SEEMS to BE ENOUGH. I ASK that YOU INTERVENE AND PREVENT the CONTINUATION of this EXPLOITATION of the high cost for PRISON calls,

Respectfully:

151 / *[Signature]* *[Signature]*
A74032

TRULINCS 29149001 - THOMAS, BARRY A - Unit: MON-O-F

FROM: 29149001

TO:

SUBJECT: This is a public comment for the Wright Petition

DATE: 09/24/2012 06:35:07 PM

Received & Inspected

OCT - 1 2012

FCC Mail Room

September 24, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communication Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket #96-128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing in response to the solicitation for public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket #96-128). AS a first-time offender and recently incarcerated, I am shocked at the extremely high costs of phone calls and emails. Currently, I am paid \$.12 per hour in my work assignment. fortunately, I have a full day assignment. Many only work half days. However, a long distance call to my family costs \$.23 per minute or \$13.80 per hour. Local calls and emails costs \$.04 per minute. In my case, I work almost the entire month in order to talk with my family for one hour.

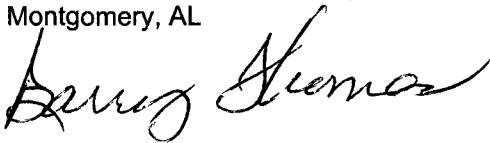
The outrageous costs of phone call and emails presents a tremendous amount of undue stress on the family unit. The Bureau of Prisons and the federal government, in it's infinite wisdom, sees this as a form of punishment for the inmates. This is actually punishment for the parents, spouses, and children. What the Bureau of Prisons and government fail to recognize is that limiting our ability to communicate with our families leads to breakdowns of the family unit. these breakdowns translate into higher divorce rates and increased social costs in the forms of Food Stamps, Medicare, and other assistance programs.

While at home, I enjoyed minimal (if any) costs for local and long distance services. If such services are available for the individual consumer at such low costs, why can't the government access such services? Physical separation from our families presents enough stress and anxiety on the overall unit. It is equally as hard for the spouse and children as it is the inmate. My spouse is currently working two jobs in her efforts to maintain the household. She is unable to send me any support. I do not see the justification and logic behind the increased pressure on the innocent.

I applaud your efforts in this matter. Keeping my family unit together is paramount. Reducing the high costs of communication thus, allowing more time with my family would relieve much undue pressure on my wife and children. It is one thing for the guilty to be punished. Charging guilt and punishment only be family relationship is grossly over-reaching.

Sincerely yours,

Barry A. Thomas
Maxwell Federal Prison Camp
Montgomery, AL



Received & inspected

OCT - 1 2012

FCC Mail Room

September 21, 2012

Theresa Torricellas
W#21722 CIW/EA-425L
16756 Chino-Corona Rd.
Corona, CA 92880-9508

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Submission of public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket # 96-128)

Dear Chairman,

As a long time prisoner (28 consecutive years in state prison in CA), I wish to express the need for less expensive phone calls. A situation occurring this week to me demonstrates the importance of being able to liberally communicate with family and/or friends on the outside.

I have been married 20 years, and my husband is my only visitor and the main person I speak with on the phone on a regular basis. He is in his mid 60's and has undergone several medical crises this year putting him in the hospital,

My husband lives alone and the only person in his vicinity to check on him is his landlord, who happens to be gone for a month to travel up the coast in an RV.

I usually call my spouse only once during the weekdays because he says he only has a phone plan that allows him 450 minutes a month. If I call collect on the weekdays, it uses up his minutes which he needs for job searching and phone interviews. Therefore, other than one mid week phone call, I try to restrict my calls to the weekend, where his phone minutes aren't used up but he still gets charged (he has a landline and a cell phone).

When my husband didn't pick up the phone mid-week, I got worried given his recent medical problems this year and the fact I had no alternative way to check on him. After several more days of this, I really started to panic.

Although there were several people I wanted to call to see if they could get an answer on his phone by calling direct, I hesitated to call because it supposedly costs more to call on the weekdays (at least collect, which is the only kind of call prisoners can make in CA).

I finally called a friend because I was worrying myself sick over it, and they were able to call his numbers direct. One #, the one I usually call, wasn't working, but his cell phone (which I can't call collect) was working. He told my friend he was ok and there must have been a problem when he put the call forwarding on his landline to his cell phone.

It is a good thing she was able to get through because if I hadn't heard he was ok, my next move was to call someone up to call the local Sheriff to check on him, and kick the door down if need be, since for

all

and no one would know or find out until the landlord showed up weeks later and went to ask for his mail (which my husband collects for him in his absence).

The point of all this is if the phone rates were cheaper (or made cheaper for prisoners who are forced to make collect calls only) my husband, and friends could better afford to take my phone calls, ~~and~~ I wouldn't have to worry needlessly because the expense of keeping in touch and communicating being cost prohibitive.

Likewise, when my husband's emergency medical situations put him in the hospital twice this year, although he had his cell phone with him (and had the sense to call 911 when he needed it), there was a delay before I found out because of my "restricted calling schedule" whereby I intentionally seek to limit my weekday calls to him to once a week to avoid using up his limited cell phone minutes.

Thank you for considering my comments and your *consideration of the*
Wright petition.

Sincerely,
Theresa Tricellas

Received & Inspected

OCT - 1 2012

FCC Mail Room

Michael June, #76496
Erie County Holding Center
40 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

September 25, 2012

Mr. Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Phone Service Contract

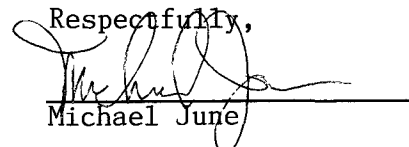
Dear Mr. Genachowski:

I believe that the phone service being provided by the jail through the phone company ICSolutions is illegal and violates both my constitutional rights and the Sherman Antitrust Act, by charging exorbitant phone charges and rates to inmates that exceed the costs associated with maintaining such phone service.

The contract, which I am being denied access to by the jail, prohibits me or my family from seeking an alternative phone service carrier that charges less. If I do not put money into a pre-paid phone account I am denied making any outgoing calls. The phone company charges a \$9 fee for everytime money is added into the account, plus a \$1.50 connection fee and 10¢ a minute for 15 minutes. This is an anti-competitive contract and it forces me and my family to cough up the \$9 fee or no calls can be made or accepted. This is wholly unfair because I know of phone companies that charge less fees. Additionally the phone company has denied me the use of making any collect calls. Every call must be through ICSolutions and must be pre-paid.

I request that you please look into this issue/complaint and if possible, please send me a copy of the contract that the Erie County Holding Center has with the phone company ICSolutions. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Michael June

file/mj